



Iowa Public Employees' Retirement System

MEMBER UPDATE | *Spring 2017*

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Will There be Changes to IPERS?

Perhaps you've been reading about IPERS in the news recently. Since the 2016 election, there have been quite a few headlines about IPERS. We know it's confusing and would like to help you understand what's been happening.

Recently, the IPERS investment board voted to update several [economic assumptions](#) that are used to calculate IPERS' financial status. Our actuaries use the assumptions to estimate the timing, duration and amount of future benefit payments (liabilities).

A funded ratio is a ratio of the system's assets to liabilities. Currently, IPERS' funded ratio is 84 percent, which is a pretty healthy financial measurement in the world of pension systems. At the end of this fiscal year, IPERS' financial health will be evaluated using the new assumptions. We expect the funded ratio to drop slightly, possibly as low as 80 percent, which is still considered healthy. [Contribution rates](#) may also raise slightly, effective July 1, 2018.

In any case, according to research by the [Iowa Policy Project](#), IPERS remains strong and sustainable, and is considered a model retirement system by industry experts.

As far as changes to the retirement program go, the Legislature did not move forward during this session. We understand that the [Public Retirement Systems Committee](#) will be meeting over the summer to discuss possible changes. To learn more, contact the committee's legislative members and watch our website for [legislative updates](#).

Can We Get Personal?

We'd like to have your personal email address. Why? Many of our members use their work email address for their main communication and that can be a bit of a problem. Work emails change often, (especially after you retire) and let's be honest, IPERS probably won't come to mind when you start updating your contacts. So, take a minute to register with [My Account](#) so we can keep you updated on important stuff.

We promise that we won't email often once per quarter for a newsletter like this, or, if you call or visit, we may send you a satisfaction survey. Other than that, IPERS doesn't sell anything so you don't have to worry about getting a ton of marketing messages from us.

CONTACT US

info@ipers.org

800-622-3849 (toll-free)

Monday – Friday

7:30 a.m. – 5 p.m. Central Time

Did You Get Your Annual Benefits Statement?

Last month you received your annual statement in the mail. Take a minute to look it over and confirm that your work record is accurate. If it's not, call IPERS immediately so we can correct it. If retirement is in sight for you three to five years from now [set up an appointment](#) with us to go over your retirement plan. We offer 1:1 counseling in person, over the phone, and online.

Visit Us Online

If you haven't taken the time to visit our [website](#), why not do it now? There you will find [educational videos](#), [publications](#), [FAQs](#), [calculators](#), [legislative information](#), and more.

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